



## *Pest Management Program Overview*

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Michigan State University is a 501(c) 3 Educational Institution which operates Fred Russ Research Forest. The priority is research, outreach, and education in support of the **Land Grant Mission**.

Archery hunting is a popular and important recreational activity in Michigan. Hunters play a significant role in deer management and data collection associated with fluctuations in population size, health and mitigating damage of active research.

Russ Forest offers one of the most unique hunting experiences in southwest Michigan many species of trees growing in various cover types on 760 acres of actively managed research forests.

The pest management program helps MSU by improving the amount and quality of data collected. It will also enable MSU Staff to keep hunters informed about upcoming research, management, or educational events which have priority over other activities. Most importantly, monitoring who accesses the property allows MSU to provide the safest experience possible for all hunters, visitors, and staff.

Hunters will be provided with materials digitally via email which include harvest sheets, maps, and newsletter. Parking permits will be mailed via USPS.

Photos of your harvest are encouraged and will be included in the annual newsletter!

Russ Forest hunters will be required to comply with all Michigan DNR rules and requirements, including obtaining and displaying a license and submitting any samples for collection.

Data collected may be shared with Michigan Department of Natural Resources, other educational institutions and state and federal partners to help promote important wildlife management and research.

Hunters may apply for a Russ Forest Permit each season from **May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>**. Hunters may apply for the annual permit as an individual or a group of up to four (4) hunters.

Permits are issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Hunters are required to complete harvest sheets. The harvest sheets must be submitted to the Russ Forest Manager at the end of the season.**

**Please refer to the Pest Management Permit Application Process for additional information regarding important dates, permit fees and related terms and conditions.**

# *Pest Management Permit Application Process*

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Applications must be submitted annually – **Application period is May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Most current version available online at [www.canr.msu.edu/kelloggforest](http://www.canr.msu.edu/kelloggforest)

## **Hunting Dates:**

- Archery hunting is permitted from **October 1<sup>st</sup> – January 1<sup>st</sup>**
- Seasons before October 1<sup>st</sup> are **NOT** Authorized
- Consideration of season extensions such as ext. late antlerless at sole discretion of MSU

## **Permit Fee:**

- \$55 per hunter (Cash or Check payable to **Michigan State University**)
  - **NON-REFUNDABLE – ALL SALES ARE FINAL**

## **Requirements:**

- Fully completed application including initialed Pest Management & Tree Stand Policy
- Payment
- Hunters who participated in previous season(s) that failed to submit harvest sheet are not eligible

## **Submission of Application:**

- Via email to [for.kelloggforest@msu.edu](mailto:for.kelloggforest@msu.edu) (PREFERRED)
- Via USPS with payment

## **Payments:**

- Mailed to MSU W.K. Kellogg Experimental Forest • 7060 N 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Augusta, MI 49012

## **Processing:**

- Applications will be processed after **June 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Hunting packets/permits will be distributed by **August 31<sup>st</sup>**.
  - Permit, maps, harvest sheets, and newsletter digitally via email to group lead
  - Parking pass via USPS

## **Use and Restrictions**

- 1) The parking pass must be prominently displayed in vehicle while hunting.
- 2) The Permit is for the sole use of hunter(s) named. MSU representatives may ask for permit #, photo ID, and hunting license to verify they are the hunter named on the permit.
- 3) There is a \$50 replacement fee for any lost permit/parking pass.

**Questions? Call or email: (269) 731-4597 or [for.kelloggforest@msu.edu](mailto:for.kelloggforest@msu.edu)**

# *Pest Management & Tree Stand Policy*

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## **Pest Management Policy**

Initials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- **ABSOLUTELY NO FIREARMS** permitted on Michigan State University property.
- Registration is required at map & sign-in/out log at visitor parking lot each hunt
- One** hunter or hunting group per hunting zone only.
- Select one hunting zone from the map. First come, first serve basis. Place marker on zone you will hunt.
- Register location on sign in sheet. **ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER.**
- You must sign-in/out each time you arrive or leave the property.
- When parking, **DO NOT** block gates, roadways, or access drives. Vehicles found to be in violation may be TOWED at owner's expense
- NO HUNTING** in Safety Zones, within 450ft of any building or parking lot.
- NO BAITING** allowed.
- Observation Sheets and any Harvests must be recorded and submitted at end of hunting season.
- All other State Regulations apply.

## **Tree Stand Policy**

- Only temporary portable stands or platforms can be used in the Forest. Stands cannot be affixed or attached to any tree by nails, screws, or bolts.
- Stands and blinds cannot be placed on MSU lands any earlier than **Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, and must be removed by March 31<sup>st</sup>.**
- Stands and blinds left on MSU land outside of these dates will be deemed abandoned and disposed of by MSU.
- Hunter or Group ID **MUST** be prominently displayed on the stand or platform.
- Stands and tree steps cannot cause excessive damage to trees; screw-in steps are **NOT** permitted.
- Stands cannot be placed in walnut trees; it is the responsibility of the hunter to identify tree species.
- Stands must not be visible from the main (gravel) forest road, and cannot be within 450 feet of any building.
- Only a minimum of branches may be removed, using hand pruners, to improve shooting lanes. Branches cannot be cut with saws or loppers or torn by hand.
- Only temporary blinds may be used.

**Russ Forest is a multiple-use property open to the public during posted hours for certain forms of recreation. You may be briefly interrupted by other visitors passing by on hiking trails. Any hunter harassment by other visitors or dogs off leash should be promptly reported to management or DNR Conservation Officers/Animal Control. Management will do its best to inform hunters of operational activities during business hours. However, you may be inadvertently interrupted by research, management or educational activities which have priority.**

**RUSS FOREST ARCHERY HUNTING PERMIT**

Group Lead  
Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle make/model \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_  
Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_  
MSU Hunting Permit # (Leave Blank) \_\_\_\_\_

**Michigan State University  
Fred Russ Research Forest**

Signed by MSU Representative

Signed by Hunter

**Fold on Line Below**

In registering to hunt at MSU Fred Russ Research Forest, I acknowledge and represent that:

- 1. I am familiar with and will abide by all applicable state game laws and regulations and any other regulations or policies applicable to hunting activities.
- 2. A) I am familiar with and will abide by all hunter safety rules, B) I will respect the rights and property of others, C) I will always use good common sense and discretion, and D) I will always conduct myself in a manner befitting a true sportsperson.

In addition, I agree to assume all risks and agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Michigan State University and its trustees, employees, agents and volunteers, against any and all claims, demands, suits, or loss, including all costs connected therewith, including but not limited to attorney fees, which arise out of or are in any way connected with my use of Russ Forest. I have read all of the Permit's terms, conditions, uses and restrictions as described herein and in the related Policy. I agree to strictly adhere to all of these terms, conditions, and restrictions. I understand that if I violate any of these terms, conditions, or restrictions, Russ Forest may revoke my Permit, without any refund of fees paid, and may refuse to issue a Permit to me in the future. The Permit is the property of the Russ Forest and must be returned if your Permit is revoked.

**HUNTER MUST CARRY PERMIT AT ALL TIMES**

**RUSS FOREST ARCHERY HUNTING PERMIT**

Hunter #2  
Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle make/model \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_  
Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_  
MSU Hunting Permit # (Leave Blank) \_\_\_\_\_

**Michigan State University  
Fred Russ Research Forest**

Signed by MSU Representative

Signed by Hunter

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In addition, I agree to assume all risks and agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless Michigan State University and its trustees, employees, agents and volunteers, against any and all claims, demands, suits, or loss, including all costs connected therewith, including but not limited to attorney fees, which arise out of or are in any way connected with my use of Russ Forest. I have read all of the Permit's terms, conditions, uses and restrictions as described herein and in the related Policy. I agree to strictly adhere to all of these terms, conditions, and restrictions. I understand that if I violate any of these terms, conditions, or restrictions, Russ Forest may revoke my Permit, without any refund of fees paid, and may refuse to issue a Permit to me in the future. The Permit is the property of the Russ Forest and must be returned if your Permit is revoked.

**HUNTER MUST CARRY PERMIT AT ALL TIMES**

**RUSS FOREST ARCHERY HUNTING PERMIT**

Hunter #3  
Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle make/model \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_  
Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_  
MSU Hunting Permit # (Leave Blank) \_\_\_\_\_

**Michigan State University  
Fred Russ Research Forest**

Signed by MSU Representative

Signed by Hunter

**Fold on Line Below**

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**HUNTER MUST CARRY PERMIT AT ALL TIMES**

**RUSS FOREST ARCHERY HUNTING PERMIT**

Hunter #4  
Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle make/model \_\_\_\_\_  
License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_  
Hunting License # \_\_\_\_\_  
MSU Hunting Permit # (Leave Blank) \_\_\_\_\_

**Michigan State University  
Fred Russ Research Forest**

Signed by MSU Representative

Signed by Hunter

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**HUNTER MUST CARRY PERMIT AT ALL TIMES**

# *Pest Management Program Payment Information*

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## **For Office Use Only**

### **Archery Hunting Permit and Parking Pass(s)**

1<sup>st</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ Permit Type (circle one) Individual / Group

Lead Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3<sup>rd</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

4<sup>th</sup> Permit # \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Fee Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method (circle)

Cash

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Permit Approved By \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved \_\_\_\_\_

NOTES: